

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 WARSAW 01626 081225Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 /080 W  
-----081259Z 071143 /42

R 081056Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6919  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 1626

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT PL  
SUBJ: FOUR DISSIDENTS PICKED UP; GIerek PHILOSOPHIZES

REF: WARSAW 1350

1. ACCORDING TO WESTERN PRESS SOURCES, FOUR PEOPLE ASSOCIATED WITH THE WORKERS' DEFENSE LEAGUE WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY BY POLICE LATER MARCH 4 AND RELEASED TWO DAYS LATER. ALL WERE REPORTEDLY ORDERED TO COURT ON MARCH 7 AS "WITNESSES" IN A CASE INVOLVING ARTICLE 271 OF THE POLISH PENAL CODE, THAT IS, SPREADING FALSE INFORMATION HARMFUL TO THE POLISH STATE. NO CHARGES HAVE BEEN FILED.

2. THE FOUR ARE JAN LITYNSKI, A MATHEMATICIAN; MIECZYSLAW GRUDZINSKI, A TECHNICIAN; SEWERYN BLUMSTEIN, A SOCIOLOGIST; AND IRENA SZEZESZA, A JOURNALIST.

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3. IRENA DRYLL, WRITING IN TRYBUNA LUDU OF MARCH 5-6, REPORTS THAT THE QUESTION OF OPPOSITION RESULTED IN "CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION" AT FIRST SECRETARY GIEREK'S PRESS CONFERENCE OF FEBRUARY 23 (REF). SHE REPORTS THAT GIEREK SAID "ANYONE WHO WANTS TO HELP HIS COUNTRY HAS THOUSANDS OF POSSIBILITIES TO DO IT." AS FOR THE

"ANTI-SOCIALSIT" ELEMENTS WHOSE MOST RECENT ACTIVITIES HAVE TAKEN THE FORM OF LETTERS AND PETITIONS, GIEREL REPORTEDLY SAID THEY SHOULD BE NEITHER "DISREGARDED NOR OVERRATED." HE CONCLUDED, "IT (DISSIDENT ACTIVITY) ISN'T DANGEROUS FOR THE SYSTEM, IT ISN'T DANGEROUS FOR THE STATE, IT ISN'T DANGEROUS FOR THE PARTY".

4. COMMENT: IN LIGHT OF THE PUBLICATION OF GIerek's COMMENTS OF FEBRUARY 23, WE ARE SURPRISED BY THE POLICE ACTION OF MARCH 4. ALTHOUGH GIERLE CALLED FOR "EVALUATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF PEOPLE UNFRIENDLY TO US" AND WARNED AGAINST "CLOSING AN EYE TO WHAT GOES ON IN THE COUNTRY", HE ALSO APPEARED TO RULE OUT ARRAIGNMENT UNDER ARTICLE 271, SINCE HE EXPLICITLY STATED THAT OPPOSITION ACTIVITY DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A DANGER. PERHAPS THE POLISH AUTHORITIES ARE TRYING TO GIVE AN IMPRESSION OF DOING SOMETHING AGAINST HUMAN-RIGHTS ACTIVISTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE "FRATERNAL ORGANS," E.G. THE KGB. END COMMENT.

DAVIES

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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